

where visitors had inscribed their names with chalk upon the walls; it is a delicate fungus, and grows somewhat trumpet-shaped, white, light, and what I daresay ladies would call in "open work." On handling its beauty departs and it assumes the appearance of a damaged piece of white kid.

In regard to minerals, three or four rather uncommon ones occur in the organic deposit. This is in the centre of the main cave, where a black, loose and friable matrix carries thickly studded white, colourless, and buff-coloured crystals. The largest ones are known as Struvite, and consist essentially of phosphate of ammonia and magnesia. Adhering to these and also in the non-organic deposit are found small more or less needle-shaped crystals, probably produced by alteration of the Struvite, and consisting also of magnesia, ammonia, and phosphoric acid, which have been named Hannayite. Three other minerals—Newberyite (named in honour of the late Mr. J. Cosmo Newbery, C.M.G.), a phosphate of magnesia; Dittsmarite, and Muellerite—are also found in the cave.

Below the "organic" deposit is a thin bed of brown rock, which is easily powdered, and looks like powdered basalt; this contains white specks and small crystals, probably some nitrates. The "organic" deposit gradually merges into the "non-organic," which latter contains about 77 to 88 per cent. of mineral matter, a small quantity of organic matter, and water. Through this brown earthy bed are found nodular concretions of magnesia and lime phosphates, with occasional pencilings of a white phosphatic mineral. In most places, at a depth of from half an inch to perhaps 8 inches from the surface, a whitish layer is found of varying thickness, averaging the width of a chalk mark, occasionally increasing into a fairly large pocket, from which a lump as big as a loaf of bread can be taken of this phosphatic mineral—sometimes white, often yellow.

Samples of the different deposits are exhibited on the table; and in conclusion I might say that, although we turned over some six or seven tons of stuff, no bones or fossilized forms were met.

ADDITIONAL LOCALITIES FOR VICTORIAN ORCHIDS.

As Mr. C. French, jun., expressed a wish that other members of the Club would from time to time publish their observations on the flowering times and localities of Victorian orchids, I have much pleasure in recording the following species, with some additional localities, which, in many cases being distant parts of the colony, may not have been visited by Mr. French:—

ORCHID.	LOCALITIES.
DIPODIUM	
punctatum	... Carrum, S. Gembrook, Hall's Gap (Grampians)
GASTRODIA	
sesamoides	Darlimurla, Monbulk Ck.
THELYMITRA	
ixioides	... St. Albans, Keilor Plains
aristata	... Darlimurla
longifolia	... Preston
flexuosa	... Sandringham
antennifera	... Ringwood
DIURIS	
punctata	... Preston, Mentone
maculata	... Ringwood
pedunculata	... Nar-Nar-Goon, Connewarre, Fairfield Park, Balmoral, Stawell
sulphurea	... Portarlinton
longifolia	... Nar-Nar-Goon
alba St. Albans, Keilor Plains
palustris	... Bayswater
ORTHO CERAS	
strictum	... Clyde
CALOCHILUS	
Robertsoni	... Darlimurla, Monbulk Ck., Doncaster
PRASOPHYLLUM	
Australe	... Darlimurla, Grampians (Hall's Gap)
elatum	... Ringwood
patens (?)	... Darlimurla, Keilor Plains
fuscum	... Sandringham
MICROTIS	
porrifolia	... Darlimurla, S. Warragul, Keilor Plns., Monbulk Ck., Clyde, Grampians (Hall's Gap), Brighton
PTEROSTYLIS	
curta Fairfield Park
nutans Frankston, Nar-Nar-Goon, Colac, N. of Greensborough
pedunculata	... Nar-Nar-Goon, Wandong, Mt. Corran- warrabul
nana Stawell
cucullata	... Burwood, Kooyongkoot Ck., Spring- vale, Mt. Corranwarrabul
præcox Lakes' Entrance
obtusata	... Nar-Nar-Goon, near Ferntree Gully
barbata	... Ringwood, Oakleigh
mutica N. of Stawell

PTEROSTYLIS—*continued.*

longifolia	...	Nar-Nar-Goon, Lilydale, N. of Riddell's Ck., Wandong
Mackibbini	...	Near Brighton Beach
CRYPTOSTYLIS		
reniformis	...	Stawell, Black Ranges, S. of Stawell
ERIOCHILUS		
autumnalis	...	Pakenham, Eltham, Barsedown, Campaspe R.
fimbriatus	...	Stawell
CALADENIA		
congesta	...	Darlimurla ; a small variety, Oakleigh
Menziesii	...	Ringwood, Nar-Nar-Goon, Frankston, Colac
Patersoni	...	Ringwood, Nar-Nar-Goon, Polkemmit, Balmoral, Wandong, Stawell
suaveolens	...	Ringwood
carnea	...	Sand., Stawell
caerulea	...	Stawell
deformis	...	Ringwood, Polkemmit, Stawell
CHILOGLOTTIS		
Gunnii	...	Darlimurla, South Warragul, Mount Corranwarrabul
GLOSSODIA		
major	...	Nar-Nar-Goon, Lower Ferntree Gully, Balmoral, Wandong, Ledcourt Quarry (Grampians).

T. S. HART.

FORMAL AS A PRESERVING FLUID.—A thoroughly reliable preserving fluid is a desideratum to the ordinary collector as well as the museum curator, therefore any additional information on the subject is welcome. In the January number of the *American Naturalist*, Mr. F. C. Kenyon describes Prof. T. Blum's employment of formal, the usual name of a forty per cent. solution of formaldehyde in water. It is a clear opalescent fluid with a sharp odour. It has the advantage of being cheaper than alcohol, of having a more penetrating action, and in many cases preserving colours and microscopic details. Whole mammals, reptiles, fishes, &c., placed in a ten per cent. solution of the fluid were hardened, and after nine months' immersion were unchanged, though the fluid had not been changed.—*Natural Science*, April, 1895.